



County of Los Angeles
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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April 13, 2007

To: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: David E. Janssen
Chief Administrative Officer

**MOTION TO SUPPORT PROPOSALS TO PROMOTE HIV/AIDS POLICY
CONSISTENT WITH ACCEPTED PUBLIC HEALTH STANDARDS AND SUPPORT
LEGISLATION THAT INCREASES AVAILABILITY AND ACCESS TO HIV/AIDS
SERVICES IN CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES (ITEM NO. 9, AGENDA OF
APRIL 17, 2007)**

Item No. 9 on the April 17, 2007 Agenda is a motion by Supervisor Burke instructing the Chief Administrative Office's Intergovernmental Relations Branch to work with the County's legislative delegation to: 1) support proposals to promote HIV/AIDS policy consistent with accepted public health standards, and 2) support legislation that increases availability of and access to routine HIV screening, education, outreach, care and treatment, including Federal, State and local correctional facilities and incarceration settings.

The Department of Public Health (DPH) and the Commission on HIV indicate that among those with a history of incarceration the prevalence rate of AIDS is six times higher than in the general public. This population may represent a serious public health threat to the community and to those people with whom they may have high-risk contact. Despite efforts by our public health and correctional systems to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS, a significant proportion of people entering correctional facilities remain at risk for HIV infection while incarcerated and subsequent to their release. Because it is imperative that they have access to a continuum of care to treat their

illness and the skills and resources to prevent new HIV transmissions, DPH and the Commission on HIV recommend adoption of these policies.

These legislative policy proposals are consistent with current State legislative policy to upgrade and expand HIV/AIDS counseling, testing, education, outreach, care and treatment in State correctional and incarceration facilities. This motion would add Federal and local facilities to the existing policy.

It should be noted that Representative Maxine Waters (D-CA) has introduced the Routine HIV/AIDS Screening Act, HR 822, which would require health insurance plans to cover routine HIV/AIDS tests under the same terms and conditions as other routine health screening. HR 822 was referred to the House Sub-Committee on Health on February 20, 2007. Representative Waters also has announced that she plans to reintroduce the Stop AIDS in Prison Act, a bill to require routine HIV/AIDS screening of all Federal prison inmates upon entry and prior to release from prison. In addition, it would require HIV awareness education for all inmates and comprehensive treatment for those inmates who test positive.

DEJ:GK
MAL:MS:acn

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Department of Public Health
Commission on HIV Health Services